

## SBC Executives Quizzed On TV

NEW YORK (BP) — Adrian Rogers and Harold Bennett explained the Southern Baptist Convention's Bold Mission Thrust and other issues during an hour-long interview with Russell Barbour in an NBC-TV network program, Sept. 23.

Rogers, new president of the 13.2-million-member SBC, and Bennett, new executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, fielded questions ranging from Southern Baptist relationships to President Jimmy Carter to the issue of biblical inerrancy.

In the program entitled "The Thrust Toward 2000," Barbour pressed the two SBC leaders to explain how Southern Baptists can expect to accomplish the ambitious Bold Mission Thrust goal of proclaiming the message of Christ to the entire world by the year 2000.

Bennett explained that Southern Baptists already have a career mission force of almost 6,000 persons in the United States and 95 foreign countries which will be the nucleus of such an effort. He said they will be augmented by a growing number of volunteers and career missionaries.

Rogers said that Southern Baptists must approach Bold Mission Thrust as if they are the only ones to do it, but noted: "Bold Mission Thrust won't be done by Southern Baptists alone." He said it will take the combined efforts of many Christians to reach the world for Christ.

Responding to Barbour's questions, the two SBC leaders emphasized that the SBC will attempt to reach more blacks and other ethnic groups as part of Bold Mission Thrust, but that no one would be coerced to change their views.

On the question of inerrancy, posed by Barbour in light of the controversy over that issue during the election of Rogers to the SBC presidency in June, Rogers defined it to mean believe that the Scriptures are without error in their original manuscripts.

In discussing the SBC's Baptist Faith and Message Statement, passed by the SBC in 1963 and reaffirmed in 1979, Rogers said he believes there are very few Southern Baptists who would attribute error to the Bible — "I would guess less than five percent."

Pressed by Barbour about what

(Continued on Page 2)

## Frank Groner Sets Retirement In 1980

Frank S. Groner, president of Baptist Memorial Hospital (Memphis) has announced plans to retire effectively April 30, 1980. The Board of Trustees of the hospital has accepted his decision with the proviso that he be retained as Director of Development after he retires as president of the hospital. The Board also voted that he be given the title of President Emeritus.

The Board's selection to replace Groner as president is Joseph H. Powell, who is executive vice president of the hospital. Powell is a graduate of the University of Tennessee and received a masters degree in hospital administration from the University of Minnesota. He has been a member of the hospital's administrative staff since 1955. He is a past chairman of the Tennessee Hospital Association and serves as a regent of the American College of Hospital Administrators.

Since Groner came to Baptist Memorial Hospital as administrator in 1946, the hospital has grown from a 500 bed facility to one of over 1900 beds. As

such it is the largest private hospital in the world. Recognized as one of the best managed hospitals in the country, it has the lowest cost per patient day of any hospital in the U. S. with an average occupancy of 1000 or more patients. At the same time, the hospital has the largest charity program of any private hospital in the South and is one of the community's largest sources of health manpower with eleven education programs enrolling over 500 students.

During Groner's tenure, the replacement value of Baptist Memorial Hospital has grown from approximately \$16,500,000 to over \$250,000,000.

While serving as chief executive officer of Baptist Memorial Hospital, Groner has also served as president of the American Hospital Association, the American College of Hospital Administrators, the Southeastern Hospital Conference, the Baptist Hospital Association and served on the Board of Governors of the national Blue Cross

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Frank S. Groner (left), president of Baptist Memorial Hospital (Memphis), discusses his retirement plans with Joseph H. Powell, executive vice president. Mr. Powell has been chosen by the Board of Trustees to succeed Groner as president of the hospital effective May 1, 1980.

## Indonesia Visa Situation Appears To Be Improving

JAKARTA, Indonesia (BP) — After nearly three months of restricted visa renewals, Southern Baptist missionaries in Indonesia report the situation appears to be improving.

Three mission families have received visa extensions without the notation "not to be extended again" a phrase which had been appearing on renewed visas. Edward O. Sanders, mission chairman, said reliable sources have told him these three non-restrictive visas mark the beginning of a new trend. Two of the extensions were for six months; the third for the normal extension time of a year.

Concern over Indonesian visas developed in July when the first of several Southern Baptist missionary families received a visa extension of only six months, rather than the usual 12 months, with the notation that it could not be renewed. Government letters were sent to missionaries of various organizations who had been in Indonesia at least five years, informing them of the policy. Under these restrictions nearly 90 percent of the Southern Baptist missionaries assigned to Indonesia would have been forced to leave the country within the next two years.

William R. Wakefield, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board secretary for South and Southeast Asia, called the visa situation "the gravest crisis we have faced in our Southeast

Asia ministry since Vietnam and Laos fell." He called on Southern Baptists to pray that "an effective door for ministry and witness (would) remain open in Indonesia."

Many factors have brought about this apparent change, Sanders said. Religious groups, foreign governments, influential individuals and high

government officials have all brought pressure on the Indonesian government to change the policy. Although the situation looks better than it did in July, Sanders said the government is holding to its policy of limiting foreign influence and pushing foreigners to develop plans to train Indonesians to replace them.

## Belmont Plaza Transferred To Baptist Laymen Group

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Tennessee Baptists will transfer the lease of Belmont Plaza, a high-rise retirement center, to a group of Baptist laymen as a result of action taken by the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The board's action in effect rejected a recommendation from an appointed study committee to sell the facility to Lawler-Wood Inc., Knoxville, Tenn. At a special called session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention April 5, messengers voted to sell or transfer the center to relieve the convention of any liability.

The group of laymen is forming Belmont Plaza Inc., and will take over financing and operation of the 123-unit

facility which was constructed by the Tennessee Baptist Service Corporation, but not opened because of lack of operating funds.

The transfer will cost Tennessee Baptists an additional \$572,000 including: \$456,858 currently in reserve to be given to the new corporation; \$75,000 expenses during a 60-day option period for the corporation to raise \$1 million in syndication funds; and \$40,000 to rewrite the original \$5 million bond indenture making the Tennessee Baptist Convention liable for the debt instead of the Tennessee Baptist Service Corporation.

Since February, the convention has paid \$227,400 to keep the facility from going into default.

Belmont Plaza has been in trouble since December 1978 when it was discovered it could not open for lack of operating funds. Money from the original \$5 million bond indenture was planned for operation, but it was discovered too late that under terms of the bond agreement, no funds could be used for operating expense.

Under terms of the new agreement, Tennessee Baptists will have the option to buy back the facility at the fair market value at the time of repurchase or for the amount the investors have in the project, whichever is greater.

Lawler-Wood Inc., offered \$3.5 million for the facility. The bonds would have been recalled and paid off.

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# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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## Brotherhood Rally To Offer Garrison, "Philosopher"

The annual Brotherhood Rally will be held at Parkway Baptist Church, Jackson, Nov. 12, beginning with a banquet at 5:30 p.m. and followed by the conference in Parkway's auditorium at 7:30.

Gene Garrison, pastor of First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, will be the conference keynote speaker. A native of Harrison, Ark., Garrison is a graduate of West Texas State University and Southwestern Seminary.

He has been pastor of churches in Texas and Oklahoma, having served as pastor of First Church, El Paso, Tex., before going to First Church, Oklahoma City.

He writes a weekly column for the Oklahoma Journal. In 1968 the American Minister's Association named Garrison one of "The Five Outstanding Young Pastors in America."

Featured speaker for the banquet session is Eddy Nicholson, "The Rocking Chair Philosopher." Eddy "com-

bines country humor, homespun stories, old time songs, and an engaging personality into one of the most enjoyable, non-fattening programs you've ever enjoyed," says his brochure.

He is an after-dinner speaker, humorist, entertainer, and motivator. He has spoken before a wide range of audiences over the South and Southwest, both in churches and chamber of commerce events and in colleges.

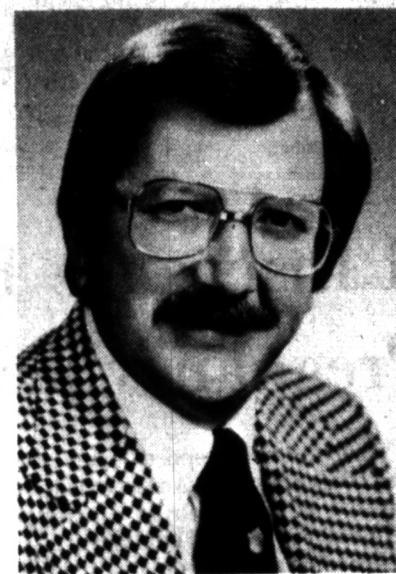
Laura and David Prevost will be the featured musicians for the banquet session. Laura is a native of Jackson and David hails from Hazlehurst. Both Laura and David are vocalists and guitarists. David has been called to be minister of music at First Baptist Church, Canton.

Jim Raymick, minister of music at Parkway Baptist Church, Jackson, will direct the music for the conference which follows the banquet. Raymick is a native of Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

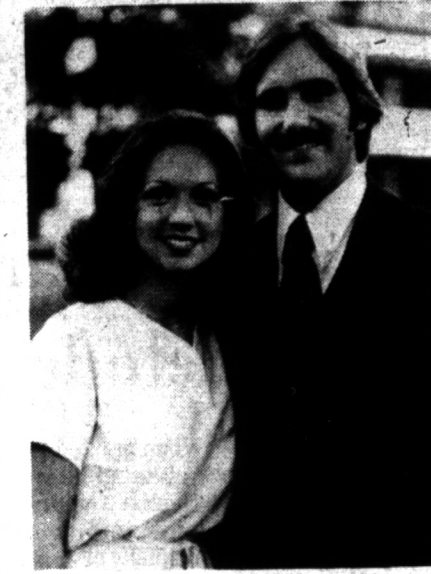
As a charter member of the Centurymen, the 100-voice choir sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention, he has sung in a concert at Capernaum during the filming of the NBC Special Telecast, Sunday in Galilee. They toured England, Italy, Israel and Brazil, and have sung in three Abe Lincoln Awards programs, the Honor America Day program in Washington,

and two Southern Baptist Conventions. Raymick has made a recording, *The God of Love My Savior Is* with orchestral accompaniment.

Tickets to the banquet will soon be available at \$3.50 each, and may be ordered from the Brotherhood Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Mississippi 39205. The conference is free of charge.



Gene Garrison



David and Laura Prevost



Eddy Nicholson, the rocking chair philosopher

### FMB Requests

## 'Send Evangelists,' Missionaries Cry

By Mary Jane Welch  
RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Southern Baptist missionaries in 30 countries rated general evangelist their greatest need as they requested a record 1,526 reinforcements for 1980.

But the annual request for new missionaries also includes jobs as diverse as physician, music promoter and business manager to augment the widespread efforts of almost 3,000 missionaries in 95 countries.

Sixty-nine percent of all 1980 personnel requests, made by a vote of missionaries in each field, are for evangelism and church development specialists. Some of these would go to Southern Baptists' newer mission fields, such as Burundi and Southwest Africa, where they would join one mission couple trying to witness to a whole nation.

### 10 Percent

In spite of record appointments, the number of evangelists approved never equals the number missionaries request. In 1978, when a record 350 new missionaries were approved, only 67 were appointed for evangelism and church development. With three appointment services still to be held in 1979, less than 10 percent of the 473 evangelists requested have been appointed. East Asia, with seven countries, and West Africa, with nine countries, each have received only one evangelist thus far in 1979.

The board's missionary personnel department recently brought its reg-

ional representatives to the home office for its annual review of requests with area secretaries, George H. Hays, secretary for East Asia, told the group that missionaries in Korea waited five years before 1978 without appointment of an evangelist. "All this time (there was) . . . a tremendous response in Korea," he declared.

Because of the response in Korea, missionaries have requested five more general evangelists in 1980. They also have asked for a church administration consultant and a stewardship promoter to work with the Korean convention in nurturing the new believers. Even with the good response, "I have a feeling our back door is too large in Korea and we're not conserving all the new Christians who have been coming in," Hays said.

Looking at other East Asian countries, Hays said Hong Kong needs evangelists simply because it has so few, and Japan faces a personnel shortage with almost half of the present missionary force scheduled for retirement in the next decade.

In West Africa, Nigeria also faces a large number of retirements in the near future, but the French-speaking countries have an even greater need for evangelists. "If I had to pick out just one priority, I really hope we can do something about the requests for Niger this year," said John E. Mills, secretary for West Africa. Niger missionaries have requested two agricultural evangelists — one specializing in crop farming and one in animal husbandry.

### Evangelist's Heart

"This is really the best opportunity to build churches," he said, adding that Niger doesn't need someone who is just a farmer, but someone who also has "an evangelist's heart."

Career and associate missionaries, single persons and couples are all needed. Of the requests, 721 can be filled by career missionaries and 129 by missionary associates. Associates are persons between 35 and 59, employed for a renewable four-year term. Although a majority of the jobs call for a couple, single women can fill 169 of the positions and single men can fill 176 of

(Continued on Page 2)

## September CP Gifts Tally At \$636,234

With September ending on Sunday, the month's Cooperative Program receipts in the offices of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board were the lowest for the year, according to an announcement by Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer.

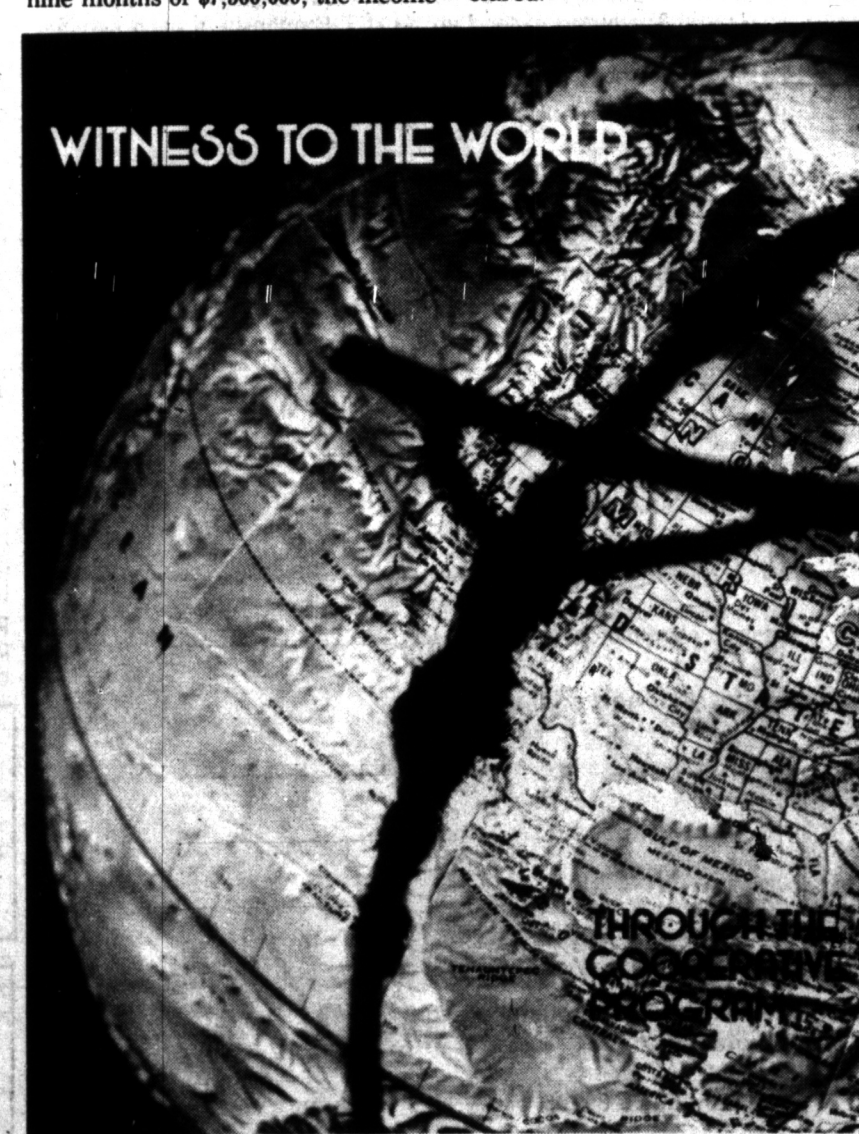
The receipts for September were \$636,234, which were \$63,386 less than the same month of last year. The total receipts for the year thus far have amounted to \$7,334,536. This is \$760,275 more than for the same period of 1978.

Compared with budget needs for nine months of \$7,500,000, the income

through the first three quarters of the year has been \$165,464 short.

"This is not a discouraging aspect, inasmuch as September ended on Sunday; and many churches were unable to get their September missions gifts in before the end of the month," Kelly said. The second lowest month for 1979 has been April, which ended on Monday. The gifts for that month were \$679,710. May followed with \$933,982.

"Mississippi Baptists have been supporting and will continue to support local and worldwide missions efforts as a top priority," Kelly declared.





# SBC Execs Quizzed

(Continued from Page 1)

he would do, if anything, to rid the SBC of "liberal" professors, Rogers said he intends no witch hunt but said, "I don't want young men taught there are errors in the Bible from the standpoint of human rationality."

He emphasized that he, as SBC president, has no authority to remove anyone from any position, but that he does have certain appointive powers to committees and the influence of leadership.

Asked if he would appoint persons to committees who don't believe in biblical inerrancy, he said, "I have never knowingly had teachers or deacons (in churches he has served as pastor) who didn't believe in the inspiration of the Scripture. If I knew a person had said he did not believe in inerrancy and infallibility of the Bible, I would not appoint him."

He said he believes that anyone paid by Southern Baptist money to teach in Southern Baptist institutions should teach what Baptists believe, but said: "I would not favor a witch hunt but would not oppose a committee if it were fair and honest" to investigate liberalism. But he said he had not decided to appoint such a commit-

tee, noting that Southern Baptists already have procedures to handle such things.

Both Rogers and Bennett emphasized that Southern Baptists are not a people who must ascribe to a certain creed, but, added Rogers, we are a people with a commonality of belief. "We believe in the inspiration of Scripture, the Lordship of Jesus Christ, salvation by grace through faith, baptism of believers only by immersion, the eternal security of the believer, separation of church and state, evangelism and the spread of the gospel."

"It gets to be a witch hunt to make someone dot all the (theological) i's and cross all the t's. I just want people to believe that the Book is trustworthy," Rogers said, noting that he was elected president because people said, "Adrian believes that way."

He added, however, in effect, that a vote for another candidate was not necessarily a vote against the concept of biblical inerrancy. "Many of the others not elected also believe in inerrancy," he said.

He said that he hopes the subject has become such an issue that those who can't conscientiously

support biblical inerrancy would want to teach somewhere else besides Southern Baptist ranks.

Rogers, responding to a question, said he would feel obliged to let President Jimmy Carter know if there was any serious disagreement with a moral position he had taken.

He and Bennett pointed out that Southern Baptists are a varied denomination with a variation of opinions, and that there is no Baptist position on Carter or his policies.

Even though Southern Baptists have a variety of opinions, Bennett said, "the thing that binds us together is our mission to reach the world for Christ."

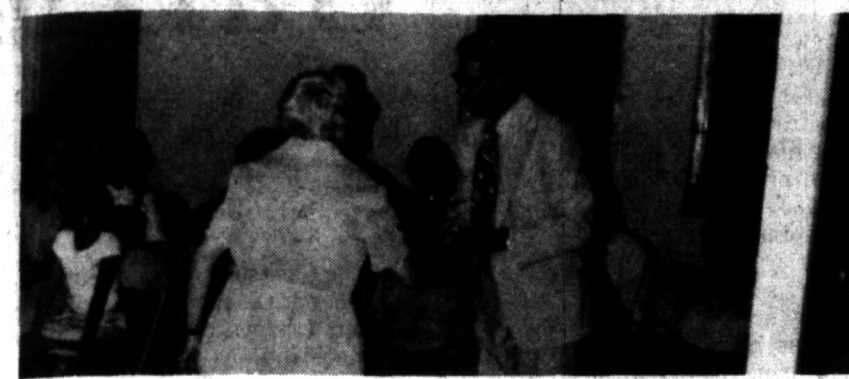
Responding to Barbour's questions, he said this effort would involve wide use of mass media and that he doesn't think recent changes in leadership at the SBC Radio and Television Commission would prevent that sort of participation by the commission. "I would think they would be actively involved," he said.

The commission and NBC cooperated in production of the Barbour interview with Bennett and Rogers.



## RA Day At MC

What the line above is saying is that Royal Ambassadors visited Mississippi College for a day of activities and inspiration. The group of boys in grades 1-12 totaled 1,153 in this first yearly event which is sponsored by the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in cooperation with Mississippi College.



## Boggan Reception

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH, WAYNE COUNTY, gave a reception for W. W. Boggan, director of missions for Clarke and Wayne Counties, and Mrs. Boggan. Boggan retired at the end of September. Pleasant Grove Church presented the Boggans a check.

## Groner Sets Retirement

(Continued from Page 1)

Association.

On September 18, the trustees honored Groner by naming Baptist Memorial Hospital East after him. A plaque recognizing this honor has been placed in the lobby foyer of the new 400 bed satellite community hospital.

Baptist Memorial Hospital East, a \$35 million project, was opened on March 23, 1979.

Baptist Memorial Hospital is affiliated with the Baptist Conventions of Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas.

## Send Evangelists, Missionaries Cry

(Continued from Page 1)

them.

In addition, 114 requests call for missionary journeymen. A missionary journeyman is a college graduate 26 or under who spends two years working alongside career missionaries overseas before pursuing a career in the United States.

## Bracey Campbell Resigns Position

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Bracey Campbell III, supervisor of the news and information section in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's office of communications, has resigned to return to the Nashville Banner as managing editor.

Campbell, 32, implemented a reorganization and expansion of the board's news operation during his 19-month tenure. He also served as chief of the Sunday School Board bureau of Baptist Press.

Before coming to the board in 1978, Campbell had been managing editor of the Banner for two years and had worked for the afternoon paper since 1971 on the copy desk, as a political reporter and as chief political reporter.

Prior to 1971 Campbell worked for the Jackson (Miss.) Clarion-Ledger for six years.

## Second "Heart" Meet Postponed

Due to damage to buildings from Hurricane Frederic, the second Heart of America Bible Conference, scheduled Oct. 11-13 at Mobile, Ala., has been postponed, according to the sponsors of the conference.

The meeting first was scheduled for the municipal auditorium in Mobile, but the hurricane so damaged that building that it was not possible to use it as the site for the conference. The location was moved to Dauphin Way Baptist Church, but later checks indicated structural damage there also, the sponsors said. Also, some homes were to be opened to those attending the conference, and they have been damaged.

The sponsors were W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, and the James Robison Evangelistic Association. The indications are that the conference will be rescheduled in 1980.

## Annuity Board Insurance Plans Now Include Pregnancy Leave

DALLAS, Texas — When applied to the medical insurance plans administered by the Southern Baptist Annuity Board for the denomination's churches, pregnancy may now be considered a justifiable cause for leave of absence.

Darold H. Morgan, Annuity Board president, said this means church employees who return to full-time employment after maternity absences may file claims for benefits covering expenses incurred during their leaves.

"The most common period of leave for normal delivery extends up to 90 days," Morgan said. "However, the period can be extended up to one year in cases involving medical complications."

Morgan said maternity leave should be granted on an understanding that benefit payments depend on an employee's return to active employment in the church.

"There is no extended benefit for pregnancy under the Annuity Board's medical policy when an employee terminates," Morgan explained.

According to Morgan, an employee who takes maternity leave but chooses not to return to active full-time employment is ineligible for maternity benefits.

For more information about this benefit, contact the state annuity representative or the Annuity Board, SBC, 511 North Akard Building, Dallas, TX 75201.

## State Chaplains' Retreat To Be Held At Rankin County

Willis Brown, president of the Baptist Chaplains of Mississippi will lead the group's annual retreat, Oct. 5-6, at Rankin County Retreat.

Brown, part time chaplain at the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, is retired from the Chaplaincy Division of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

He will be joined on the retreat program by Joe Oale, retired editor of the Mississippi Baptist Record.

Carl Hart, director of the HMB's chaplaincy work will be present for discussion of denominational relationships and J. C. Renfro and "the Blue Grass Gang" will offer musical entertainment. Renfro is Rankin director of missions.

## Belmont Plaza To Laymen

(Continued from Page 1)

Raymond Langlois, spokesman for Belmont Plaza Inc., said the convention of the Baptist laymen is to maintain the ministry of Belmont Plaza and to save Baptist integrity. He said by Sept. 13 the proposed corporation had already subscribed \$850,000 of the \$1 million syndication. Langlois is a member of the Tennessee Baptist executive board and pastor of Judson Memorial Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.

## Career Guidance Offered

Choosing a career will be the focus of a meeting for youths and young adults, Oct. 27 on the campus of William Carey College in Hattiesburg.

The career guidance meeting is sponsored by the Church Administration/Pastoral Ministries Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and the Baptist Sunday School Board as speaker.

The program begins at 9 a.m. with registration and adjourns at 3:15. Joel Ray, Lebanon director of missions will lead a discussion of "The Christian College."

Other special interest sessions include careers as pastor, led by Leon Emery, head of the sponsoring department; as minister of youth, led by Richard Davis, of Temple Baptist Church, Hattiesburg; as minister of music, led by Jimmy McCaleb of 38th Ave. Baptist Church, Hattiesburg; opportunities in the Southern Baptist Convention, led by Alice Magill; and opportunities in associational and state Baptist work, led by Guy Henderson of the state stewardship staff and by Joel Ray.

Henderson will also speak on "God's Call — Your Response."

Chattanooga, Tenn. (EP) — A voluntary Bible study program, recently redesigned to make it objective and descriptive and with religious tests for teacher's eliminated, has been approved by a federal judge for use in the public schools of Chattanooga and surrounding Hamilton County.

The pastors' retreat, set for Oct. 8-10 at Clinton's Camp Garaywa, has been cancelled, according to Leon Emery, of the sponsoring MBCB department.

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## Larry Garner To Leave Convention Board Staff

Larry Garner of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Church Training Department staff, has been named to a position with the Sunday School Board in Nashville.

Garner will begin duties Oct. 15 as editor of Baptist Youth, a quarterly Church Training publication for youths ages 12-17. Secondary responsibilities include editing general publications including books that come

from the youth section.

A native of Booneville, Garner joined the MBCB staff in June, 1978, coming from Fairview Baptist Church, Columbus where he was minister of education.

Garner attended Blue Mountain College and earned the master of religious education degree from New Orleans Seminary. He was ordained in 1971 by Tate Street Baptist Church, Corinth.

## BWA Challenges Churches To Aid Congress Travel

WASHINGTON (BP) — Robert S. Denny, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, has challenged Baptist churches in the United States to follow the example of many Canadian Baptists in helping delegates from Third World countries travel to the Baptist World Congress in Toronto, July 8-13, 1980.

Fifty-eight of the 115 national Baptist conventions and unions affiliated with the BWA have fewer than 10,000 members, Denny said. Most of these and several others are located in economically depressed countries of Asia and Africa or the currency controlled countries of eastern Europe.

"The Alliance wants to have every

group represented at its congresses," Denny said. "In fact," he added, "their presence is essential if we truly have a world meeting."

Mrs. Nancy Campion of Toronto, chairman of the BWA's travel scholarship program, said she expects the goal of 200 scholarships from Canadian churches will be met or exceeded. Churches are asked to contribute \$1,500 for each sponsored delegate.

He said that smaller churches which feel unable to furnish a full \$1,500 scholarship may band with other churches in their geographical area to provide the necessary funds and jointly entertain a delegate.

Betty Lee Smith, BWA's conference coordinator, said that all scholarships will be assigned through the BWA's Washington, D. C., office, 1628 Sixteenth St., to avoid duplication and make sure that help goes to those individuals appointed by their respective conventions or unions.

## Pillow Assumes Roden's Job

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Jerome B. (Jerry) Pillow has been named to manage the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission's audience systems and services. Pillow, assistant marketing manager for the commission, will hold the position during the period that Charles Roden, who headed audience systems and services, acts as interim chief administrative officer of the commission.

Roden will assume the interim position, Oct. 1, following the resignation of Harold Martin, executive vice president and chief administrative officer. Martin will assume a Gannett Foundation graduate journalism professorship at the University of Florida, Gainesville.

Roden is a 22-year employee of the commission; Pillow, a 23-year employee.

## FBC, Greenwood Gave \$5,136.16

The report of contributions to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions from First Baptist Church, Greenwood, was omitted from the listing in the Baptist Record in August.

The books run from Jan. 1, 1976 through July 31, 1979. Though the check was dated July 20, financial processing took several days and the amount given by the church was not credited until Aug. 1.

The church gave \$5,136.16 to the offering.

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## Mississippi Baptist Activities

- Oct. 7 Church Training Round-up and Round-out Sunday (CT Emphasis)  
Oct. 8-9 Church Training Leader Lab '79 (CT Emphasis in each association)  
Oct. 12-14 Baptist Women Retreat, Camp Garaywa, Clinton, 6:00 p.m., 12th — Noon, 14th (WMU)

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## South Corinth Pastor's Daughter Appointed Missionary To Taiwan



Cynthia Weaver

Cynthia Weaver, daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Joe Weaver of the South Corinth Church, Corinth, Miss., will leave the States enroute to Taiwan around Jan. 1, 1980. She is now in orientation at Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Ga., for service as a foreign missionary.

Among 20 persons named missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board at Kansas City, Mo., April 10 of this year, she will work as an elementary teacher in Taiwan.

The South Corinth church gave Miss Weaver a linen and food shower recently at the home of her parents and her sister Laura at 220 Miller Road, Corinth. Hostesses were Mrs. H. T. Conley and Mrs. Norman Wicks.

Miss Weaver has served as a summer home missionary in California

and Maryland. She has also taught at Murray (Ky.) State University and at junior high schools in Memphis and Bolivar, Tenn.

A native of Memphis, she has lived in Guntown, Miss., and in Tennessee, Texas, Kentucky, and Louisiana. She received the bachelor of science degree from Union University, Jackson, Tenn., and the master of arts in teaching degree from Murray State, and studied at New Orleans Seminary.

Orlando — An address by physician James Young on Southern Baptist missions efforts in Yemen will keynote the third annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Medical/Dental Fellowship which opens a three-day run November 2 in Orlando, Fla.

## Staff Changes

"The Hamilton Baptist Church, Monroe Association, has called Ralph Culp as pastor. He returns to Mississippi after serving three years as pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church near Hamilton, Alabama."

"Mrs. Culp is the former Lily Ward, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ward of Grenada, Miss. They have one son, Michael, age 5."



Mr. and Mrs. Robinson

William Armand Robinson, pastor of the State Boulevard Baptist Church of Meridian for the past 18½ years, has resigned to accept a pastorate in central Florida. He assumes the pastorate of Springhead Baptist Church at Plant City, a suburb of Tampa, on October 14th.

He served as trustee of Blue Mountain College for three years. During his present pastorate, he has served as Moderator of the Lauderdale Baptist Association, President of the Lauderdale Baptist Pastors Conference, and President of the Lauderdale County Ministerial Association. He was a member of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board for six years, representing Lauderdale County.

The Springhead Baptist Church was the Robinsons' first pastorate, from 1944 to 1949. Both their children were born there. The Robinsons will be moving into a new pastorage which the church dedicated in mid-August. Mrs. Maudine Robinson is to remain temporarily in Meridian to complete her last year as Music Specialist in the Meridian Public School System. She will reside with their daughter, Linda in their new home at 5121-17th Place.

A Farewell Reception honoring Rev. and Mrs. Robinson was given on Sunday afternoon, September 16th, in the new Family Life Center at the church. They were presented with matching TV and stereo consoles and a cash gift by a group of church members.

S. W. Davis, Jr. has come to Springdale Baptist Church, Attala Association, as pastor. He has been pastor of Gannison Baptist Church, Bolivar Association.



Mr. and Mrs. McNeese

George William McNeese is the new pastor of First Church, Mize. His previous pastorate was First Church, Clara. In the Wayne County Association he served as associational youth director and Vacation Bible School director and taught in several leadership training workshops.

Seoul, South Korea (EP) — Representatives of 19 major Christian denominations in South Korea have signed a statement declaring that "the Unification Church is not a sect of the Christian Church." The document cites 16 reasons for asserting that the Unification Church is un-Christian. Among these are: UC does not accept the Bible as the Word of the living God, nor as the unerring standard of Christian faith and life. UC does not teach salvation through the cross of Jesus Christ; rather it teaches the restoration of Adam's lineage through Sun Myung Moon. UC does not believe in Jesus' resurrection.

It takes two to speak the truth — one to speak, and another to hear — Thoreau

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3  
Thursday, October 4, 1979

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## Retired Comperes "Keep The Store" For Missionaries In Rome, Italy

By Wilda Fancher

You'd think two people who had reared seven children would, when the seventh moved out, say, "Whew!" and sit down to rock for a while. Not the Robert L. Comperes from Briar Hill Church near Florence.

Closely associated with Bob and Flora Holifield home on furlough from Italy this past year, they asked if senior citizens could be of help to them in Italy, a question that led to a ministry of love.

One of Bob Holifield's present duties is to serve as interim pastor of the Rome Baptist Church. This made it needful for him to attend the European Baptist Convention at Interlaken, Switzerland, but his and Flora's responsibilities in operating the Betania (Bethany, in English) Conference Center made it seem almost impossible for them to be out of the country. Here was the place where the Comperes could help them.

So, in July, the Comperes spent three weeks keeping the store while Bob and Flora were at Interlaken. Arriving only two days before the Holifields' departure, a two-day briefing was all that they had.

The Conference Center, the building which was formerly the WMU Training School, is available for groups to come for prayer retreats, leadership training, Bible study; evangelical groups from all over Europe use the Center for such gatherings. Tourists who are referred by Baptist people may use the Center when room is available. On some occasions refugees who have been released from Rumania and referred by a certain pastor have stayed there.

Therefore, keeping the store was not simply a matter of housekeeping. The way the Comperes "helped out" was to make beds, clean rooms, mop floors, wash linens, iron, garden, carry out the garbage, accept Express letters from the postman, go to the open market, and cook. They also entertained exactly as the Holifields would have had they been at home. And home is an



The Comperes

apartment on fourth floor with no elevator!

"The fifty or more teenagers who came while the Comperes were there loved them dearly," Flora told us. "In the dining hall teenagers wanted to sit by them and talk with them and be with them. They felt as if they were grandparents."

Mr. and Mrs. Compere, who will

celebrate their fifty-second wedding anniversary on December 27, were in school work for many years, she as a teacher, and he in administrative work, the last position being county superintendent of education. They farmed all along, too. Mrs. Compere said they enjoy saving their money to do special things like this. In their retirement years they have made other trips for missions purposes, one to Ohio and two to Montana.

"The highlight of our trip to Italy was the fellowship we had with missionaries, being able to see their sacrifices and dedication to their work and to know the joy they receive from their work — and to see the loving spirit there," agreed the Comperes.

When asked why they wanted to do this bold mission to Italy, they answered, "We love people and want to see them saved. You have to feel this way before you would be interested in going."

The delightful thing about this is that the Comperes are already planning to go back and keep the store next summer.

## Tanner, Drumwright, Vardaman Will Lead Bible Study In Smith County

Plans for the seventh annual mid-winter Bible conference have been made, and Charlie Bryant, director of missions for Smith Association, says that this promises to be one of the best ever.

Jerry Vardaman of Mississippi State will be leading in Old Testament studies. Huber Drumwright, dean of Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., will lead in New Testament studies. William Tanner, executive director of the Home Mission Board, SBC, Atlanta, Ga. will bring the messages.

Special conferences for youth will be

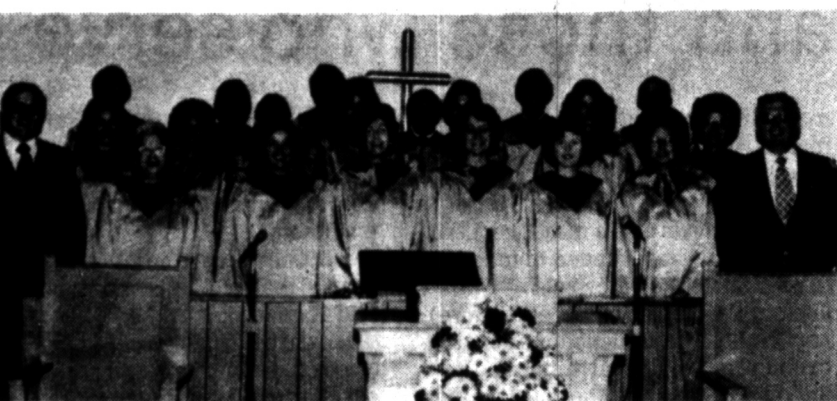
led by Chris Elkins, former member of the Unification Church, now with the Home Mission Board.

Martha Branham of Dallas, Tex. will return as guest soloist.

The conference will begin on Sunday night, Jan. 20, and go through Wednesday night Jan. 23.

First Church, Raleigh will be host.

## Just For The Record . . .



THE CHOIR OF TRINITY CHURCH, RANKIN COUNTY, celebrated worship services with their first set of choir robes only three weeks after a drive for the new robes began. At left is Bill Rice, minister of music and youth. At right is Lyn Nations, pastor.

Shaw Church recently honored its members who had a summer birthday. A big birthday card was made and on Sunday morning those with June, July, and August birthdays had their names written on the card.

Mrs. Betty Johnson ("Ma Betty") to her church friends) was given a silk corsage to honor her as the oldest summer birthday person.

In the evening a fellowship was held; two teen-age girls had made and decorated the cake. Nineteen honorees, ages from 8 to 83, told about their memorable birthdays. Lewis Gooch, pastor, says that the birthday party is to be a quarterly event.

"The Rainbow Express" was presented at Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Jackson, on Sept. 30. This is a children's musical telling the story of Noah. Don Bennett, Minister of Music, played the part of Noah. Soloists were Susan Stinson, Becky Buckley, Elisa Bennett, Jeanna Carson, Mark Rowell, Ken Crosby, Trey Bourn, Dawn Hayes, and Wade Tucker. The Narrator was Shelley Dotson. Dot Pray was the director of the musical. Sets were by Lucy Crosby and Cindy Allen.

## Sunshine Will Break Ground

Sunshine Church, Rankin County, will break ground for a new sanctuary on Sunday, Oct. 7, which will also be homecoming day.

The schedule will include Sunday School at 9:45, morning worship at 11 followed by the ground breaking and dinner on the grounds. Tommy and Linda Duckworth will present a concert in the afternoon.

Pastor Mike Willoughby states that the public is invited, especially former members.

## Missionaries

Mr. and Mrs. David L. Finnell, missionaries to Malaysia-Singapore, are currently in language study in Indonesia (address: J1. Kapt. Tandean 34, Bandung, Indonesia). Born in Lexington, Ky., he also lived in Dallas, Texas, and in Jackson and Tupelo, Miss., while growing up. She is the former Linda Lipscomb of Jackson, Miss. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1978.

## Off The Record

An old lady approached the counter of an airline and asked the clerk for a schedule for a flight from a town in Arkansas to Oshkosh, Wisconsin. With care he worked out a series of connecting flights and wrote it all down for the customer.

In about an hour the same old lady returned and asked for the same information.

"But I gave that all to you awhile ago," he said.

"I know," she replied, "but this is for my sister. She wants to go, too."

Ad in local paper: If the person who found my gold watch inscribed with a message from my wife, you may keep the watch but return the inscription.

Two cows were grazing near a highway when a big milk tank-truck on its way to retail grocery stores, passed by. On one side of the truck, in big blue letters, was a sign which read, "Milk . . . Pasteurized . . . Homogenized . . . Standardized with Vitamins 'A', 'B' and 'D' added." One cow turned to the other and sighed: "Makes you feel sort of inadequate, doesn't it?"

## James Smith Joins Staff Of Agricultural Missions Foundation



Smith

James Smith, pastor of First Church, Houston, has joined the staff of Agricultural Missions Foundation, Limited, as executive director of development. Smith is a graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary.

He has held pastorates at Raymond and Mendenhall in addition to Houston. He has been active in mission projects both on the home and foreign fields.

Smith has served on short term mission projects in Ecuador and the Philippines. He has taken on special projects ranging from Bible teaching to repairing of equipment used by the missionary.

He will be responsible for the Foundation's relations with the public.

During his pastorates, Smith has served as moderator of the Simpson

County and Chickasaw Association. He has served as President of the Houston Ministerial Association and various committees for the Mississippi Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.

He is a trustee of Clarke College and a licensed amateur radio operator.

Smith has departed for the island of Dominica to establish a radio communications station to assist with disaster and relief agencies. Dominica has been without communications since Hurricane David knocked out all electricity, water, and services.

The station will be an amateur "Ham" station operation on the Hurricane Relief Frequency. In order to establish a station, it was necessary to carry radio receivers, transmitters, generators, antenna, and all equipment to operate.

The messages to be conveyed are health and welfare messages to and from the United States and other islands.

## Union Church Goes Back To River For Baptizing

Nine persons were baptized in the Oklahoma River by the newly founded Union Baptist Church of Seminary in September 1909. Seventy years later, the congregation returned to the same spot in the river to baptize 13 more.

Two of the nine original converts were present to see the immersion of the new candidates as canoeists and naturalists waited in the shade of the river bank overhang. They were George Mooney and Mrs. Lucy Ann Quick. Both are still members of the church.

The church held its annual baptism service in the river until 1957 when a new church with a baptistry was built under the leadership of Pastor Richard E. Martin.

Last fall, when the interim pastor, Bill Osborn, got involved in updating

the church's history, he discovered that 70 years would pass this September since the first baptism. He suggested that the church re-enact the historical event as a means of experiencing great moments of the past.

Later in September the church continued with its historical programming by observing its 71st anniversary.

Celebration plans called for an old fashioned worship meeting complete with an "amen" bench, old-fashioned clothes, and songs of long ago from the hymnals used on the day the church was organized.

Osborn delivered the morning sermon. I. L. Stone organized the church with 10 members at the Walton Schoolhouse near Sanford in 1908.

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# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### For after midnight drinking . . .

## What makes a resort area?

In the latest issue of the *Capital Reporter* Editor Bill Minor has taken up the cry to make downtown Jackson a resort area so that liquor can be served past midnight.

Minor resorts to a little sarcasm in pointing out that at midnight the Jackson night spots turn into a pumpkin, which, he says, rhymes with bumpkin. Evidently, this would be an apocalyptic way of referring to Jackson as a hick town unless it becomes sophisticated enough to serve liquor to its revelers past the midnight hour. Revelers, of course, are just beginning to get untracked at midnight.

"Untracked" is used advisedly, for the additional use of alcohol would indeed aid them in throwing off all restraints that might otherwise condi-

tion their judgment and activity. With more alcohol and longer hours their cars would also be more difficult to keep in line.

Minor says that it is within the power of the city council to make downtown Jackson a resort area but that the council has refused to do so in spite of "vibes to the contrary." Surely it would behoove the Baptists of Jackson to encourage the city council in its decision and urge it to stand fast. Those outside the city might also express their appreciation for Jackson's not unleashing such a dangerous element upon them in the early morning hours.

It is a city law that drinks cannot be served past midnight in Jackson. Earlier this year a discotheque began business in downtown Jackson. A dis-

cotheque is essentially a dance hall, and this one can serve drinks because it has a liquor license. Because it has a license it cannot serve past midnight, nor can it allow brown-bagging, or patrons bringing their own liquor.

The owner of the disco petitioned the city to make downtown a resort area so that liquor legally could be sold until 2 a.m. The city turned down the request, so the owner was then free to approach the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division of the State Tax Commission with the same request.

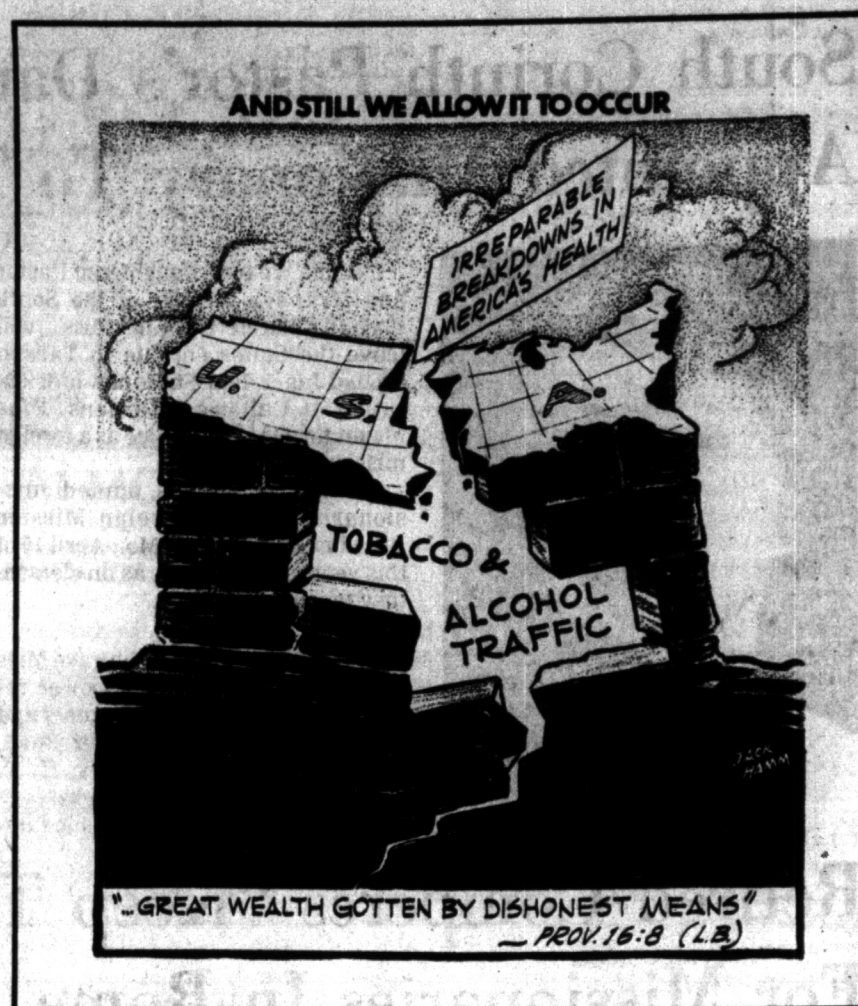
Now WLBT-TV has jumped on the resort area bandwagon in an editorial by Manager William Dilday.

To declare downtown Jackson a resort area regardless of whether it is or not just for the purpose of selling liquor would seem to be hypocrisy.

To the credit of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, it plans to make an investigation of whether or not downtown is a resort area. Thus if the division determines it is not such an area, it will have sufficient data to support its decision.

A resort area is where people go for rest and relaxation. The Gulf coast is such an area, but downtown Jackson is not. People don't flock to Capitol Street to rest and relax. Hopefully, the decision of the ABC Division will reflect that.

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Division will be seeking to look at the matter objectively. It has to. That is the law. We feel that an objective approach will determine that downtown Jackson is not a resort area. — DTM.



## Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

### Third Anniversary

A ski resort in late September is a place of perfect solitude. I'm going to remember that next time I want a private place to do some writing.

At Renee Walley's suggestion, W. D. and I went to Falls Creek Falls State Park in Tennessee on vacation last week. We spent our 24th wedding anniversary there hiking and biking and reveling in the crimson of the leaves on the mountains, the gold of the wildflowers, the wild geese on the lake, and the splendor of the waterfalls, the highest this side of the Rockies.

On our way home we stopped at Cloudmont Ski Resort in northeast Alabama. It's on top of a mountain, a mile or more from a paved road. They have a poly-snow slope good for year-round skiing, and a longer winter run where they make their own snow when the temperature is 28 degrees or colder. Both were deserted last week. Also there's a golf course.

We rented one of the chalets, in late afternoon. Other chalets apparently were empty. At dusk, two of three golfers left, and the girl who kept the lodge during the daytime closed it and vanished.

We were utterly alone on the mountaintop, in the edge of a wonderful quiet forest. Rain started to fall, a soothing pitterpatter on the roof. No television. No radio. No telephone. Dust was about a half-inch thick on everything, (evidently we were the first tenants in some time) so we did have lots of spiders for company. Since we didn't want to drive back down the mountain to a cafe, we ate peanut butter and bread and drank instant coffee for supper. About seven, W. D. went to bed, so I had a session with my notebook.

September brought another anniversary for me, the end of the third year of "Faces and Places." I really appreciate the good response I have had from readers, and always enjoy letters from you, and welcome comments, criticism, or suggestions.

When do you write? and where do you write? are questions I frequently

hear. In an amazing variety of places, at all times of day and night.

I've written at 11 o'clock on Sunday night, and at 5 o'clock on Monday morning. I've set up my typewriter on Mama's back porch, so I could write in early morning while Mama cooked breakfast. I've outlined columns during long trips in the car, while W. D. was driving.

I've written while in the dentist's chair, waiting for an anesthetic to take effect. And I've learned to take a notebook with me even to the examining room in the doctor's office, because there's always an eon to wait after donning that tacky gown.

A column on camping I wrote in a boat on Lake Albemarle. My registration experience at Baylor University I recorded while sitting on a bench by the Brazos River.

One Sunday afternoon I visited Corrie ten Boom's watch shop in Harlem, Holland. That night, in the home of a Dutch family at Nieuw-Vennep, I wrote while I sat on the bed in one of the rooms at the top of the winding staircase. In the room I found a lot of books in English, so I could even do research on the Netherlands.

I sat on a bus in London and wrote about the Queen as I saw her pass by. Another column I wrote during an all-day train trip to Cornwall. One I wrote in the airport at Belem, Brazil.

One morning, while I was home in Clinton with the flu, I sat writing in a chair by the window while I looked out at birds in the snow.

One of my favorite writing places has always been the couch in George and Zelma's trailer, at Louise, George, W. D.'s oldest brother, died in August, a few days after his 70th birthday. Already I miss him a lot. It never failed to surprise me that he liked to read this column. Usually he could answer my questions about the Mississippi Delta of the past.

It's possible to write anywhere, but I prefer the place of solitude. Yet I can't stay there. I have to go back where the people are. I remind myself that faces are more important than places.

## Book Reviews

**OUT OF THE SALT SHAKER AND INTO THE WORLD** by Rebecca Manley Pippert (InterVarsity, paper, \$3.95, 186 pp.) The author suggests that Christians should follow the pattern in evangelism set by Jesus: his whole way of life as well as his approach to presenting God's truth? What were his priorities? What was his personal approach to holiness? How did he live a life of obedience? Especially helpful are the practical chapters on conversational style, and on giving reasons for your faith.

**TRUST AND OBEY** by Jay E. Adams (Baker, paper, \$3.95, 154 pp.) This commentary on I Peter gives counseling insights on a theme close to all Christians — the reality of suffering

in human life, especially in the lives of God's chosen. Expositions are followed by sermon sketches.

**BY THEIR BLOOD CHRISTIAN MARTYRS OF THE 20th CENTURY**, by James and Marti Hefley (Mott Media, paper, \$7.95, 640 pp.) Five missionaries killed by Aucas Indians; Mavis Pate, a nurse killed in Gaza; Lottie Moon, a martyr by starvation — these and all of the missionary martyrs of this century are written up in this volume. It is fully indexed with an extensive bibliography and covers every section of the world chronologically, from 1900 to 1979. At the beginning of each section are maps detailing the area of the world covered in that unit.

### Baptist Record advertising . . .

## Does it constitute endorsement?

There has been a slight question concerning the ad which has appeared twice relating to the Heart of American Bible Conference to be held in Mobile. The question was, does the Baptist Record endorse the conference by carrying the ad.

The answer is no.

The Baptist Record does not carry advertising only on those things it would endorse. It does seek to screen the advertising carefully. For instance, a recent ad concerning a bond issue for the North Phoenix Baptist Church in Phoenix, Ariz., was carried only after placing about six long-distance phone calls to three states. One of the states was Arizona.

Nor does the Baptist Record carry advertising only on those meetings promoted by the various boards and commissions and committees of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention. If advertising were limited to those

categories, there would need to be much more involvement from the Cooperative Program for the Baptist Record. We seek to make as much money as we can from advertising, but we are extremely careful about what we advertise.

Admittedly, this ad cost its sponsors \$500, and we can always use \$500. But that would not have been enough incentive to run it.

The further question about this particular ad was, is not this the same group that has provided the main part of the program for the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference for several years.

The answer is yes. The underlying question would be, is not this the group that has declared its intention of searching out "liberal" professors at the seminaries and mounting a political campaign just before the Houston convention.

The answer is — only partially.

I must admit that my theological concepts might be pretty close to some of these folks — though as has been explained, I think there is a great deal of playing on words that don't seem to have any common definitions.

I will admit also that I would not want "liberal" teachers in the seminaries; but when it comes time to deal with the matter, I want to be the one to define "liberal." I must admit that as Southern Baptists these folks have every right to take what ever actions they want to, as long as they approach the matters in the proper channels. I must further admit that I have not always agreed with what actions these folks have indicated they want to take. I think there are better ways to achieve the same purposes — assuming we can all agree on what purposes we want to achieve.

But all of that has no bearing on the ad.

This same group of folks sponsored a

meeting in August in St. Louis, and the question of political implications in the conference was put to the sponsors directly. The assurance was that the conference had absolutely no political overtones and its only purpose was to promote evangelism. Perhaps some will say that the group intends to achieve its evangelism goals by working toward its political goals. This was emphatically denied. If such should turn out to be the case, then this group would be guilty of displaying a lack of good faith. Surely there is no way the group can be accused of this. They are all responsible people.

So here is a group of Southern Baptist people seeking to advertise a conference which surely must not have anything but a noble purpose. We see no reason not to accept the ad.

Incidentally, the conference was postponed.

Please rest assured that we will continue to be very careful about the advertising we do accept. — DTM.

### Guest Editorial . . .

## Concerning churches and those who serve

By Julian Pentecost, Editor, The Religious Herald, Virginia

Each church has an inescapable responsibility to manage wisely the resources God has entrusted to it. Churches, as well as individuals, are stewards. One vitally important aspect of a local church's stewardship is its support of those who serve as ministers and employed staff.

Some Virginia Baptist churches have failed . . . in this area of stewardship. These churches, by the decisions they have and have not made, have caused those who serve them to survive on less purchasing power each year for the past several years.

If a church has not doubled the salary of minister and staff from the 1969 level, these persons now live on less than they did then. Inflation, in 10 years, has reduced the real value of a dollar to 50 cents.

For calendar year 1979 it is generally agreed the rate of inflation in Virginia will be in the range of 10-13 per cent. This means unless a church provides a 10-13 per cent increase for staff in 1980, their purchasing power will be decreased even more.

Every congregation, as a minimum, should do its honest best to make it possible for staff members to stay at

least even with inflation — not fall further behind. When there is the sincere desire to do so, usually a way can be found.

Another critical concern of ministers, especially pastors, is housing. A larger number and proportion of pastors are concerned with this need because other staff persons more frequently receive a housing allowance.

Occasionally a pastor living in a parsonage becomes disabled and it is a heart-rending experience. Where do he and his family go? What does his wife do when he dies early in his ministry and the church-owned house has to be vacated for the new pastor? Scores of pastors in our state live in church-owned houses and are acutely aware of both these possibilities — becoming disabled or early death — as well as the prospects of coming to the end of their active ministry without a place to live.

The problem of housing for ministers is a crisis of serious proportions, emotional and financial. It should not be ignored by churches and/or ministers, but faced openly, prayerfully and intelligently.

Approximately 40 churches in Virginia that prefer to retain possession of a home for the pastor, for reasons which to them are valid, have established a "Housing Equity Fund" for the pastor. Provision for the pastor to have a home at retirement can be

made through annuities and endowments; and we are grateful that attention, long overdue, is being given this real need.

Retirement is also a major concern. The Editor has listened to many retired ministers as they said: "I was a pastor for 40 years (some, even more), participated in our denominational retirement plan all that time, and now my monthly annuity check is less than \$200."

A goodly number of our retired Virginia Baptist pastors qualify for food stamps! It is a sad, sad commentary on what our churches and denomination have not done!

The Southern Baptist Retirement Program has been upgraded in recent years and is now much more realistic. The Annuity Board recommends a church provide an amount equal to 10 per cent of a staff member's total annual compensation for retirement purposes. We commend this practice. It will increase the likelihood of individuals being able to live with a measure of dignity in their retirement years.

Insurance should be considered by churches—including life, medical and long-term disability protection.

Someone once wisely observed: "A wife always thinks her husband has too much insurance—until she needs it!" Investing in protection may appear expensive until . . . Expressions from

widows and children of ministers, disabled or deceased, would convince the most doubtful. Churches are wise to protect themselves and those who serve them.

Attention needs to be given one other area — that of Church-Ministry Related Expenses.

The largest single expense incurred by a minister in his work results from operation of his automobile. Surveys in several states reveal that, in the vast majority of churches, a portion of the minister's salary had to be used to cover expenses in doing church "business." Although it is hard to believe, some churches provide no auto allowance!

It is misleading to list under pastor's salary such items as auto allowance, conventions and conferences, continuing education, books and periodicals, pulpit supply — and a host of others. They are not income for the minister and his family. Such expenditures are necessary for him to do that which the church has called him to do. They should be budgeted but not under pastor's salary.

We urge churches as they plan for 1980 to graciously accept and generously discharge their inescapable stewardship responsibilities for those who serve them. Other provisions need to be "done" but these ought not to be left "undone." Love will always find a way.

## Letters To The Editor

### Some Sane Reflections For Retirement

I began in 1962 as Superintendent of Missions in Smith county, for over three years and led the county to purchase a home for the new missionary in Raleigh. We built a full program to match our urban and rural needs.

We set up a program of evangelism to finance our needs, we preached 362 messages the first year, with all the offerings going into the county fund. We averaged 12 revivals each year with as many as seven vacation Bible schools in one year.

Our goal was to build a confidence in the need of a county program. We believe it is a success because they have never been in the red.

We began with First Baptist, Mize, in 1965. We began with \$8,000 in the budget. It has grown every year to \$32,000. In 1978 we completely renovated our sanctuary with almost all the finances in hand.

My first sane reflection in our ministry is on evangelism. We sponsored the first county-wide revival in Smith county in the Mize football stadium. We averaged over 1,250 each night, with 76 professions of faith besides the other moves. Mize Church baptized 36.

On the church evangelism we averaged 85 percent of the enrolment in Sunday School. This reflects our cooperation for 17 years. In Smith County we have preached 53 revivals.

My second reflection is on the spiritual life style Mize members used in becoming part of my family while my wife was away sick for six years. The church was and is my family.

My third reflection is on their expectancy of their pastor. He was never a hired hand or a taxi. He was human being saved by grace with a divine call.

This was extended beyond myself, my father-in-law, Carl Underhill, being a Baptist preacher and my mother-in-law and children were all treated like kings. All we can say for Mize church is, "To God Be The Glory."

My fourth reflection is last but not least. It is on the Spirit of our community of Churches of all faiths. They went to the Governor and asked him to give me an award, it was the Governor's Distinguished Mississippian Award of the year. This was given last July with a gathering of over 600 people from our community of churches. This was for the sick we visited, the funerals we preached, the kind words in the time of

trouble in the community. We can live with what we have already lived.

We could not ask for more. One of your best friends, Giles Hankins

### Help when it's needed

Editor: The day after Hurricane Frederic, helicopters were flying overhead (one nearly every 10 minutes), and I could imagine the officials playing tourists and shaking their heads, saying "Look at that! SOMEBODY (else) needs to help them." How proud I was of the Mississippi Baptist Disaster Unit. The Baptist were here! and helping!

Our family was too busy cutting our way in and out to care if we were hungry — and frustrated with the optimistic fellow on their radio insisting that we boil our drinking water. What wa-

ter? Boil how? No water. No power. Thank you, Civil Defense, for advice. Never mind advice — send me a drink of water.

Tim Nicholas reported in *The Baptist Record* of September 20 that Jackson County's Civil Defense Director told the Mississippi Baptist Disaster Unit they were in the way and to clear the area. The Civil Defense Director's attitude does not represent the 7,000 hungry people that were being fed by our Baptists. It does not represent the attitude of those of us who had to chop our way out before we could help others.

I wish I'd been there to tell the Civil Defense Director WHO was "in the way."

Thank you for coming and helping when we needed you. Helen Martin Pascagoula

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Thursday, October 4, 1979

## Home Mission Board Elects Evangelism Consultants

ATLANTA (BP) — Two consultants who will serve in specialized evangelism were named by directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board during their September meeting.

Ron Johnson of Nashville, Tenn., was elected to the newly created post of national evangelism consultant with young families.

J. E. Ellis of Orlando, Fla., was approved to become national evangelism consultant with blacks.

Johnson, a native of Newnan, Ga., has been editor and consultant with the church training department of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville. He was elected to missionary status with the Home Mission Board.

Ellis, who has been a home missionary since 1977, has been regional missionary with the Home Mission Board's department of cooperative ministries with National Baptists, serving the East Central Florida area.

Johnson and Ellis are part of an expansion of use of consultants by the evangelism section at the board. They join three other persons who are consultants in areas of specialized evangelism — Herman Rio, ethnics; Dave Bennett, youth; and Laura Fry, women.

Frank Crumpler, director of the de-

partment of "specialized evangelism," said the consultants will "represent all of the programs of the evangelism section on the field as well as be resource persons in the special areas. They have a 'double-barreled' responsibility."

Hogue added that plans currently are to add two more consultants in specialized evangelism areas. "We hope to add a consultant who will work with singles. Statistics tell us that by 1981, some 51 million persons in the United States will be single adults. We also hope to add a person to work with aged people. These are two expanding groups which we feel we must focus attention on."

## Gospel Helps Ready For Metro Areas

ATLANTA — The Associational Evangelism Department of the Home Mission Board has published two booklets to help pastors, laypersons and associational leaders present the gospel in metropolitan areas.

The first booklet, "Priority One: Concepts in Metro Evangelism," defines the barriers to evangelism in the nation's cities. "Only a strategy that uses all kinds of Christian ministry and deals with all of the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of persons can hope to succeed in leading urban men and women to God," says author Dale Cross.

The second booklet, "Priority One: A Guide for Metropolitan Evangelism Strategy," focuses on specific techniques and programs an evangelism director, associational leader or long-range planner can use to plot local evangelism strategy.

"The five steps listed in 'Priority One' will help metropolitan associations to move evangelism to the top of their agendas," Cross says. He points out ways to use Southern Baptist projects such as Lay Evangelism Schools, TELL personal witness training, WIN OUR WORLD personal witness training for teens, lay renewal emphasis, Action Sunday School enrollment campaigns and backyard Bible clubs.

Free copies of the two booklets can be ordered by title from state evangelism directors or Orders Processing Services, Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring Street, N.W., Atlanta, Ga., 30309.

My words fly up, my thoughts never to heaven go. — Shakespeare — Hamlet. Act III. Sc. 3



Under the hot lights of the television studio in Nashville, Frank Pollard, seated left, host of "At Home with the Bible," interviews James Teel, seated right, a former missionary to Argentina and now at Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas. Teel will appear along with W. A. Criswell, Harold Bryson, Dene Day and others as guests on the series of programs slated to begin in November. Pollard is pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson. — Photo by Mark Sandlin.

## Bible Series Plans Special Christmas Show

NASHVILLE — The executive producer of "At Home with the Bible" has announced a plan where churches and associations may sponsor the series' Christmas segment on local television, cable or radio.

"At Home with the Bible" is a weekly radio and television program produced by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and the Radio and Television Commission. While the program airs weekly in some cities, executive producer Don Fearheiley said the Christmas program could be aired as a special.

The 30-minute Christmas program features host and Bible teacher Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., interpreting the Christmas story. The series' music group, "A Joyful Sound," presents several selections from the musical *Celebrate Life* as well as traditional Christmas carols.

Fearheiley urged interested groups to make immediate contact with station program directors.

When a station expresses interest in airing the program, he said sponsors may obtain an addition tape free by writing or calling him at the Sunday School Board. Also, Fearheiley said a tape will be sent to the station at no cost to the sponsors in time to air in December.

## O'Brian Accepts Pastorate At River Hill

S. E. O'Brian has resigned as pastor of Dorsey Baptist Church, and accepted the call to River Hill Baptist Church. During the time he was pastor at Dorsey, he served two years as moderator of the Itawamba Association, one year as association Church Training director, and two years as chairman of the missions committee. A pastorate was erected at Dorsey and the church was recognized as having one of the growing Sunday Schools by the state Sunday School Department. Under his leadership, River Hill has petitioned for membership into the Itawamba Association.

During the last five months 69 members have been added to River Hill by letter and 14 by baptism. Sunday School has grown from 12 to 150, and Church Training has been organized with a high attendance of 91. One deacon, Milburn Rogers, has been ordained. Because of the growth and need for room, a building program is in progress with two Sunday School rooms near completion. The church has purchased two buses, and the high attendance on the buses has been 96.

River Hill is in the process of organizing a W.M.U., Brotherhood, A.C. teens, G.A.'s, and Mission Friends. Vacation Bible School was held for the first time in five years, with 135 enrolled, average attendance of 86, and nine professions of faith.

## DBC To Borrow \$2.5 Million

DALLAS (BP) — Texas Baptists' executive board gave Dallas Baptist College and its new president, W. Marvin Watson, a vote of confidence by approving a proposal for the financially-troubled school to borrow \$2.5 million.

Further accenting its support of Dallas Baptist College, the board also approved a two-year fund raising campaign seeking \$5 million for endowment from members of Baptist churches in a six-county area of north Texas.

The board debated the Dallas Baptist College loan proposal for about an hour before voting its approval decisively.

Watson, a former United States postmaster general, told the board that the college has exceeded last year's enrollment and he hopes it will have more than 1,000 students before enrollment closes.

Under his administration, Watson said, Dallas Baptist College will remain a "liberal arts college" but that "the requirements of Bible study will double."

## Pastors To Receive 'Missions Digest'

MEMPHIS (BP) — Five Southern Baptist Convention organizations have combined efforts to produce "Missions Digest," a new monthly missions publication to be sent free to nearly 35,000 pastors.

The four-page digest, published by the Brotherhood Commission, Home and Foreign Mission Boards, Sunday School Board and Woman's Missionary Union, will be a quick reference and update of the latest missions resources published by the five agencies.

"Missions Digest" will aid pastors with mission sermon helps, mission quotes, short- and long-range planning ideas, brief mission features for use in church bulletins and news letters, regularly updated missions facts and a comprehensive listing of just-published or soon-to-be-published mis-

## Pastoral Leadership

NASHVILLE — Pastoral Leadership for Growing Churches, a seminar focusing on the development of a balanced understanding of church growth will be offered at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board Oct. 22-26.

Four primary areas will be studied in the seminar, including numerical increases, growth of individuals in personal discipleship, growth of the body in the quality of relationships and fellowships and increases in the number of churches.

Registration fee for the conference is \$35. To register, contact Bruce Grubbs, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.

## Equipping Workshops Set For Renewal Conference

ATLANTA — A variety of workshops designed to equip Christians for involvement in missions and evangelism will be featured at the National Renewal Evangelism Training Conference at Georgia Baptist Assembly in Toccoa, Oct. 22-28.

"Conference leaders are convicted that the laity — enthusiastically called out and effectively equipped — can be the living bridge between evangelism and missions," said Reid Hardin of the Home Mission Board Evangelism Support department.

The conference is designed to inspire and equip all Christians, Hardin added. "It will be good for everyone — denominational workers, laymen and pastors," he said.

sions information from throughout the world.

"Missions Digest" is a project of the Missions Education Council, established by the five agencies in response to the Missions Challenge Report adopted by the 1976 Southern Baptist Convention in Norfolk, Va.

## Last Call For Women's Retreat

Last call for reservations for Baptist Women's Retreat October 12-14. October 8 is the deadline for reservations for the full weekend and those who are coming for Saturday only.

Send reservations to Ethel McKeithen, Box 530, Jackson, Ms. 39205 or call 354-3704. Bring sheets, pillow case, towels, soap, light weight blanket, and especially your Bible. The program begins Friday at 6:30 and concludes Sunday with the noon meal. The special study Saturday will be from 9:00 until 3:00.

Hear Evelyn Christenson from St. Paul, Minnesota, Laura Fry from the Home Mission Board, Mrs. Hal Lee, missionary to France and Mrs. Dalton Haggan, missionary to the Indians in Philadelphia, Ms. and others.

## Religious Educators Plan Lunch

The Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association will have a fellowship luncheon during the Mississippi Baptist Convention according to an announcement by A. V. Windham, president. The luncheon will be held at Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson, Nov. 13, at 12:30 p.m.

The program will be provided by the Senior Adult singing group from Parkway Baptist Church, Jackson.

The officers of the MBREA are working on the program for the annual meeting that will be held Feb. 21-23, 1980, at Howard Johnson's in Biloxi. Details of the program will be announced at the Fellowship Luncheon.

There will be two special committees appointed at the luncheon. They will be the nominating and budget committees. Already appointed is a constitution revision committee. The members are Harold D. Fleming, McComb, chairman; Farrell Blankenship, Hattiesburg; W. E. Hardy Jr., Columbus; James Webster, Jackson; and Alton Yarbrough, Grenada.

## THE VILLAGE VIEW FROM Baptist Children's Village

### Friends of the Farrow Manor Campus:

Throughout the long years of its honored and honorable existence, The Baptist Children's Village and its mission ministry of Christian child care has been encouraged and sustained by the compassionate personal interest which countless thousands of individual Christians and the churches and church auxiliary groups which they comprise have maintained in the boys and girls who depend upon us and who must come to make their homes with us from time to time. This classic pattern of private home interest in and support of our group home living is being demonstrated again by North Mississippi friends of The Village and its children through countless acts of courtesy, kindness and unselfishness to the children who are Village wards on our branch campus in Tate County, near Independence. We could not have survived the myriad difficulties of beginning on our "country-life campus," except for the patience, understanding, loyalty and interest of all Mississippi Baptists and individual friends of children, especially those who are geographically located in or near the immediate area of our Farrow Manor Campus, and the thoughtfulness of so many in recent days serves to remind all Village people of how fortunate we are to have these others standing with us.

Frequently, Village representatives are asked, "How can we help?" — meaning, suggest helpful measures to us other than response to one of your appeals for financial assistance. We believe all of our friends understand how vital their financial support of the total needs of our agency remains to our very existence, in Jackson, on the Farrow Manor Campus, in New Albany, in our foster home ministry and

in every facet of the Village program. On our part, we understand the spirit of many of our friends, who wish to offer their hand of friendship to Village children in what they deem to be a more personal and intimate manner. If this question, "How can I help?" has bothered you, perhaps the following recounting of just a few of the blessings which North Mississippians have visited upon our Farrow Manor Campus children recently will help you:

ITEM: On September 25, 17 of our teenagers were the invited guests of the Youth Group from Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Independence, aggregating 50 people, who enjoyed a day and an evening of fun at the Mid-South Fair in Memphis. Accompanying the Youth as sponsors were Rev. Roy Myers, the Pastor and Mrs. Myers; Mr. T. Deane Rodgers, The Village's Assistant Executive Director, and Mrs. Rodgers; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ricks; Mr. and Mrs. James Beavers; and Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Neal. Mrs. Neal is a valued member of The Village's Administrative staff on the Farrow Manor Campus. This exciting trip represents just the latest in a continuing stream of good things which happen to our children on the Tate County Campus because of the interest of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, one of our host churches.

ITEM: Last month, we were favored by a visit to the Farrow Manor Campus by the ACTEENS from First Baptist Church in Batesville. The visit apparently impressed this young group so much until they returned home, organized and conducted a rummage sale as a mission project, and contributed the proceeds of the sale to The Baptist Children's Village for the benefit of the children on the Farrow Manor Campus.

ITEM: Recently, we have received from Hickory Grove Baptist Church, a gift in the amount of \$16.00 for each boy and girl living on the Farrow Manor

Campus, designated to assist in the purchase of their school needs. As a result, each of these children have been enabled to shop for these needs, to the extent of the gift, in Senatobia. Hickory Grove also contributes \$4.00 to each Farrow Manor Campus child personally on his birthday, and The Village staff arranges for each child to use the money in selecting and purchasing his own birthday present from Hickory Grove Baptist Church.

ITEM: Hernando Baptist Church contributes a birthday cake and gifts to each child on the Farrow Manor Campus on the occasion of his birthday.

ITEM: Mrs. Cheryl Jamison, the Director of the Youth Choir at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, and a professional hair-stylist, regularly travels to our Farrow Manor Campus to cut and style the hair of each boy and girl, many of whom are members of her Youth Choir, as a volunteer, mission service.

ITEM: New Garden Baptist Church observed its "homecoming Sunday" on September 30, with 4 invited young people from our Farrow Manor Campus for the entire day's activities which included, worship services, group singing, dinner on the ground, fun and fellowship.

ITEM: Partial listing of recent visitors to our Farrow Manor Campus, each of whom brought gifts of items needed and useable in any normal home-living environment, included: WMU Groups from First Baptist Church in Senatobia, from Ebenezer Baptist Church near Senatobia and The New Beginnings Club of Olive Branch.

To all of these, and to hundreds of other individuals and groups whose interest and generosity they typify, The Village of children thanks you and thanks God for you in everything you do for us at all of our installations.

### Tutoring:

For many years, The Village has implemented its home support of public education for children on the Jackson campus through the use of organized teams of tutors, jointly selected from the student body at Mis-



### Presenting our Staff

Henry M. Glaze, Home Life Director, Jackson Campus, has been a Village staff member since June, 1974.

Ruth A. Glaze, Director, Department of Music, Jackson Campus, has been a village staff member since May, 1973.

Mississippi College by Village staff and the College's BSU. The program involves the dispatching of these student/tutors to various cottages selected for them by Village staff and to small groups of children within those cottages similarly selected, where the tutors assist Village children in the preparation of homework and in the improvement of study habits generally. Warm and lasting friendships are frequently formed by The Village children and their tutors, and both public school and Village authority have noted academic achievement and improvement directly attributable to the work of the tutors.

From our beginnings on the branch, Farrow Manor Campus in Tate County, The Children's Village has been favored by the vigorous tutoring assistance of selected students from North West Mississippi Junior College in Senatobia, under the leadership of BSU Director Tommy Leach. This year, Miss Sharon Warren has been selected as Mr. Leach's student leader for the North West tutoring group. Mr. Leach and Miss Warren have announced that their regular weekly trip to the Farrow Manor Campus of The Village near Independence in this behalf will begin on October 4 and continue throughout the current public school term. The tutoring program on the Farrow Manor Campus, in structure and purpose, is identical to that pursued so successfully on the Jackson campus.

Village students of public school age from The Village's Jackson campus attend one of the schools in nearby Clinton. Village students from the Farrow Manor Campus attend, either East Tate Elementary School, near Independence or Independence Junior High School or High School in Independence. Village children in our New Albany home attend the public schools of New Albany.

### Second Annual "Dinner on the Ground":

On Sunday morning, September 30, staff and children on The Village's Jackson Campus joined in the observance of the second annual Sunday Worship Service at home, followed by the noon meal and a period of fellowship. In 1978, Mrs. Annette Hitt, Director of Christian Education at The Children's Village planned a Sunday morning worship service, followed by a group meal, for the first time in recent Village history. The occasion provoked interest and favorable comment among children and staff to the extent that Mrs. Hitt has announced that it will become an annual event. The order of worship duplicated a normal, Sunday morning at one of our local Baptist churches, with Scripture reading, congregational singing, special music offered by the Village's own Department of Music, and with the morning message brought by a guest speaker. This year, Mr. Kermit S. King, Director of Church Training for Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and a long-time friend of The Village and many of its individual children brought the message of the morning. A delicious dinner meal, cooperatively planned and prepared by houseparents and children in all of the cottages on the Jackson Campus was served under the large trees which shade the top of the highest hill on the campus, where Powell Chapel is located. The worship service was conducted inside the Chapel.

Many invited guests, including members of the natural families of our children and off-campus friends joined our group for this once per year worship experience. Village residents, children and adults, have found the annual worship service at home to be refreshing and helpful, affording an opportunity for all of our Jackson campus people to worship together in one group; to eat, fellowship and relax with family and friends; and to enjoy ample time for both worship and fellowship without pressing to meet bus schedules immediately after church services and without the "hassle" of city traffic during the trips home from our several host churches. In a very meaningful sense, the annual "dinner on the ground" services have already become a "together time" on The Village's Jackson campus.

Although Mrs. Hitt's Department plans, provides and directs a period of prayer and devotion in Powell Chapel on the campus on Tuesday evening of each week, all campus residents attend regular, Sunday services of worship at one of the Jackson Baptist



Labor Day fun at Wall Dorey State Park.



Mrs. Cheryl Jamison styles hair for Farrow Manor Campus children.

churches which hosts our group. Currently, and for many years past, Village people in Jackson have attended either Calvary Baptist Church, Parkway Baptist Church or First Baptist Church of Jackson, and most of our boys and girls become members of one of those churches, each of which contributes beyond measure to our child care effort, particularly the spiritual direction and nurture of our children. The church of membership and the church attended by each boy or girl is fixed by the cottage of the child's residence, since normally, each cottage attends its own off-campus church as a "family" group. Village staff leadership believes the annual Sunday at home represents more than just a change of pace for our boys and girls, but has already assumed real importance in our continuing program of home support for the church and spiritual emphasis on the campus.



Labor Day Picnic—Wall Dorey State Park.



Dale cuts grass on beautiful Farrow Manor Campus.



# Mission Call Strikes Twice For Mother-Daughter Pair

By Mary Jane Welch  
RICHMOND, Va. — "Like mother like daughter." Mary Green and her daughter Jackie Simpkins gave an old saying a new twist when both became Southern Baptist missionaries in the same appointment service this summer.

They even took the same assignment — home and church work — but Mary was headed for Korea and Jackie was going to Argentina. They weren't going alone. Jackie's father, Jack Green, will be an English-language pastor in Korea and her husband, Jimmy Simpkins, will be a general evangelist in Argentina.

Being the first parent-child four-some ever appointed in the same service by the Foreign Missions Board wasn't their original plan. Each couple had applied for mission service with no knowledge of the other's decision. Three days after the Simpkins mailed their medical forms for career missions from their home in Virgilina, Va., the Greens called from Indianalantic, Fla., to say they were applying to be missionary associates.

"I nearly dropped the phone," said Jackie. "I never dreamed that's what the Lord would call them to do." The two families had not even discussed their separate decisions.

When the couples were approved, they worked toward the same ap-



Jackie Simpkins (left) and her mother Mary Green, both named Southern Baptist missionaries in the same service, greet a family friend at their appointment service in Richmond, Va. Jackie will go with her husband Jimmy to Argentina, and Mary will go with her husband Jack to Korea after completing orientation this fall. Neither couple knew the other's plans for missionary service until they had already begun application. (FMB) photo by Warren F. Johnson

pointment date, leading to simultaneous furlough dates in the future. That would mean Shane Simpkins, now six years old, could see his grandparents every four years.

Jackie says her parents never pushed her toward missionary service, but since her father was a pastor, she was in church every time the doors were open and she heard many missionary speakers. When listening, she sometimes wondered if she could ever be a missionary.

She wasn't the only person influenced by the mission emphasis in her parents' church. Jack Green says he's seen more than 50 people go into full-time Christian service from First Baptist Church, Indianalantic, during his 13 years as pastor.

In fact, Jack and Mary had applied for foreign mission service themselves in 1956. When they failed the physical, they took it as a sign that God had a different place for them in his world evangelism plan.

Today they cite two benefits of their unsuccessful application. Their interest in missionary service lured them from a successful pastorate to get valuable seminary training and their response to the foreign missions call authenticated their urging others to follow God's will.

"Having answered God's call and

been refused gives you a great deal of freedom in recruiting others," says Jack. "You've got to deal with it yourself before you can recruit people."

Jimmy Simpkins is one former church member who credits Jack with guiding his spiritual growth. When the Greens moved to Camden, Ala., for Jack to be pastor of Camden Baptist Church, Jimmy's father helped him unload and eventually became his hunting and fishing buddy.

Meanwhile, Jimmy got acquainted with Jackie at school and church. They were married the same month her parents moved to Indianalantic. At that time neither couple was considering foreign mission service. The Greens were helping a young church grow and the Simpkins were pursuing teaching careers.

When the Simpkins did feel the call to full-time Christian service, they attended their parent's alma mater, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. There they felt the call to missions — at the same time her parents were feeling that call in their church.

In September the two couples and Shane will go to Pine Mountain, Ga., for missionary orientation — 14 last weeks together before departing for separate places of service on opposite sides of the world.

## East Howard Receives \$10,000

Percy Landry presented a check in the amount of \$10,000 to the East Howard Church, Biloxi, on Sept. 2, in memory of his wife, Mrs. Minnie Mae Landry, who recently died.

Mrs. Landry, a long-time member of East Howard, was active in all phases of church life, having served for many years as general secretary of the Sunday School.

R. L. Frees, pastor, stated, "Her dedication to the Lord and to His church was an inspiration to all who knew her. This generous gift will be an on-going testimony to her faithfulness."

"Having answered God's call and

## Homecoming

Providence Baptist Church (Lebanon Association) will observe homecoming Day Oct. 7, observing the 161st anniversary of the church, which was organized Oct. 1, 1818.

Danny Swindle, former assistant pastor, will speak at the 11 a.m. service, followed by "dinner on the ground" and fellowship during the afternoon.

Larry Gafford is the present pastor.

The 35th annual homecoming day for Oak Grove Baptist Church, Tolarville, will be Oct. 14. The pastor, J. H. Burrell, will deliver the message for the morning service. Lunch will be served at the church, and there will be no evening service.

Clear Branch Church in Rankin County Association will have its annual Homecoming Oct. 14. O. H. Buckley will present the morning message at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served at the church, and there will be an afternoon song service.

Liverpool Baptist Church (Yazoo County) will have homecoming day on Sunday, October 7, to observe its 106th anniversary. The morning service will be at 11:00 followed by a covered basket dinner on the grounds and an afternoon service at 1:15. The speaker for the morning service will be Doug Broom, the pastor of Liverpool. The speaker for the afternoon service will be Robert I. Martin, a former pastor of Liverpool. Music will be led by Leon Giddings of Yazoo City, who will also bring special music for each service. The church was organized on October 8, 1873, with nine members.

Antioch Baptist Church in Neshoba County will observe its annual homecoming, Oct. 7. Sunday School that day will be at 10 a.m. with an 11 o'clock worship service led by Keith Thrash as music leader and Bill Fox bringing the message.

Dinner on the grounds will be at noon and at 1:30 there will be a scripture and prayer time led by Pastor David Wilkinson. All former pastors present will be given a time to speak.

An offering will be taken for the church building fund.

At 2 p.m. there will be a "singspiration" featuring "The Seekers," and "The Joyful Sounds."

This is the beginning of revival at the church with Thrash and Fox leading each morning and evening through the next Friday night. All former pastors and former members and friends are invited to attend.

Events of great consequence often spring from trifling circumstances. — Livy

## Devotional

### Relationships Of A Well-Rounded Life

## Authority

By Ira Bright, First, Shannon, Pastor  
Proverbs 3:1-2

Each week this month these devotional thoughts will be used to discuss some aspect of "The Well Rounded Life." This might seem to be a vague topic, but I hope to say some specific things about it. Our text throughout the month will be Proverbs 3:1-2.

The well rounded life which I have in mind is one that is mature, self satisfying, and pleasing to God. Such a life involves many relationships with other people and other issues in our world. One such relationship is with AUTHORITY. Our writer says, "My son, forget not my LAW; but let thine heart keep my COMMANDMENTS."

From what source do we get our standards? On what foundation do we stand by our decisions? In matters of eternal value, where is the ultimate authority? The inspired writer points us to the law and the commandments of God. The Bible is the written, inspired expression of God's will. It has been placed in our hands that we might have a written, permanent record of God's purpose, plan, and hope for man.

What other people have and enjoy, and how they live can become our standard for living, too. I recall two young married couples who were close friends. The second couple took the first as their guide and model. When the first couple bought new furniture, or a car, or moved into a larger apartment, soon the second couple followed their example. As a result, they were often in debt with obligations which they could not meet. These families were different; their incomes and needs were different. The result was that the second couple experienced frustration, tension, and disappointment because they made someone else the authority for their life.

Popular but passing fads may determine our conduct. Even our conscience, if it is untouched by the Word of God, can lead us astray.

To have a well rounded and satisfying life that also pleases God, we might set aside and forget numerous things, but God says, "forget not my law... let thine heart keep my commandments: for length of days and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee."

When you make that important decision today, remember the foundation that never fails.

## Names In The News

Pianist-singer-composer James Ward of Chattanooga will appear in concert Oct. 14, at 8:15 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Hattiesburg.

Ward's music ranges from classical to contemporary, and his compositions have been described as "energetic" and "hard-hitting" by concert-goers.

Though not widely known in the Deep South, Ward is gaining acclaim with the release of his third album. In addition, his song "Holy Spirit" was recorded by the Imperials on their Grammy-winning album.

The concert is sponsored by the Youth Outreach Ministry of First Baptist Church. There is no admission charge.

W. E. Thorn will be guest speaker of an adult banquet at McLaurin Heights Baptist Church, Pearl, Feb. 11. He will be available for sweetheart banquets or other services Feb. 10, 12, 13, or 14 on a first come, first served basis by calling the church office, 939-3379.

Elaine Rhodes (Mrs. Kenneth) from Juniper Grove Baptist Church, Poplarville, and one of the BYW representatives on the Mississippi WMU Executive Board, was leader of one of the BYW conferences at Ridgecrest this summer, in North Carolina.

Good company in a journey makes the way to seem the shorter. — Izaak Walton — The Compleat Angler

## Life and Work Lesson

### What Is The Bible?

W. Thomas Baddley

First Church, Brandon

Hebrews 1:1-3;

Deut. 26:5-9; 1 John 1:1-4

The introduction of "new" translations and paraphrases of the Bible have come so regularly of late that most pastors are being regularly questioned about which is the best. Some are more easily understood; some seem more closely translated from the oldest available manuscripts; while others just do not appeal.

Why all the fuss? Why do men go to the trouble of translating and putting ancient languages into today's idiom? The reason is that the Bible is the divinely inspired written witness of God's revelation of Himself to persons.

From our three passages for this lesson we'll see that the Bible is (1) the inspired written witness to how God has revealed Himself, (2) God's self-revelation, given progressively in two stages: the Old Testament and the New Testament; (3) a fact-filled record given on the authority of trustworthy witnesses, and (4) an essential ingredient to our missionary enterprise.

I. The Two Stages of Biblical Revelation — Hebrews 1:1-3

In its broadest scope, this passage has profound implications. It assumes the existence of God and proclaims that God has spoken intelligibly to humanity. It points to Jesus as God's most complete revelation of Himself and it speaks of the unique person, nature, and function of Christ. In its narrower focus, this passage speaks of two important ways in which God has spoken to human beings.

The prophets were persons who possessed the ability to analyze their environment, listen to the Word and will of God, and under divine inspiration combine the two into a timely and timeless message from God. A prophet might be a "seer," predicting things that would occur in the future, but most generally a prophet was a man through whom God delivered his message. The messages of judgement, mercy, and hope were remembered and recorded, and eventually became a part of the Old Testament.

God's highest, clearest and climactic revelation came in Jesus Christ. He was the clearest reflection of the good God reaching out to restore relationship with sinful humanity. In vv. 2-3, there is a listing of seven reasons indi-

cating that the revelation in Christ is the climactic word of God. Witnesses to the good work in Christ remembered and recorded the incarnation event (God becoming man) and its impact on and implications for the early church.

The hope of the Old Testament was for the Messiah to come. The record of that Messiah, Jesus, then became the central focus of the New Testament and the key to understanding God's intentions in all Scriptures.

II. God's Mighty Acts In History — Deut. 26:5-9

God's revelation of Himself consists not only of words spoken through the prophets and his full unveiling in the person of Jesus; it also is demonstrated in the recorded passages of His dealing with His people in mighty acts in history.

The encounters between God and persons in the history of Israel are of utmost significance. Here is a primary concept of Hebrew theology: God is definitely linked to and involved in history. In the series of mighty acts recorded in Deut. 26:7-9, these people saw God working with them in a purposeful redemptive way. This history is the sphere in which God works.

The acts of God in history were (and are) revelations of God's person and His intentions for humanity. They are indications of God's reliability and consistency, which demonstrate his trustworthiness and give a basis for our faith in Him.

Finally, they were insights into the nature, dilemma, and hope of humanity. The accounts of God's mighty works in history and His encounters with persons were remembered; valued, and finally recorded. They later were combined and formed the books of the Old Testament.

III. The Final and Full Revelation — I John 1:1-4

John was careful to point out that the apostles were intimately involved with Jesus, who was the subject of their proclamation. It was a first hand knowledge. It wasn't something that they had learned from others. Jesus wasn't somebody that they had heard about. Instead, John affirms that this is first hand testimony.

As an apostle, John had experienced life with Jesus from a number of different perspectives. This statement was true of all the twelve. Yet, as long as

they knew Jesus during the days of His flesh, their understanding of His person and His purpose was limited.

Only after the resurrection did they begin to comprehend the fullness of Christ. Years after the event they were able to write of Christ and the way of life he taught from a broader and deeper perspective. The apostles bore witness to the teaching of Jesus and its implications for the Christian community. Thus, the developing witness of the apostles formed the basis for the New Testament.

Conclusion

Daniel Webster called it "a book of faith and a book of doctrine, and a book of morals, and a book of religion, of special revelation from God." We call it the Bible.

### Forest Hill Pastor

#### To Go To India

The congregation of Forest Hill Baptist Church has responded to the need and call from India for preachers to come and preach in December. Currently they are raising the funds needed to send their pastor, Wilbur M. Irwin, to India for 15 days of evangelistic preaching and witnessing.

The group under the leadership of evangelist Gene Williams will leave November 30 and return December 20. Part of the group will serve in south India and the other in northeast India.

One of the significant things about these crusades is that they will be held at a time when Gideons International will be sending over a million Bibles and New Testaments for distribution in India.

### Revival Dates

Bethel Church, Coldwater, will have revival services Oct. 7 to 11, beginning at 7:30 each evening. The evangelist will be Jimmy Erwin, and the guest music director will be Ronnie Lusher.

Revival services began Sept. 30 and continued through Oct. 3 at Madison Baptist Church. James Richardson was the visiting evangelist. Richardson is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Leland.

## Uniform Lesson

### Christ Gives Meaning to Life

Ed North, First, Quitman

Philippians 1:19-30

The most pervasive question in the universe is: What is the meaning of life? Gurus, mediums, crystal ball gazers, self-proclaimed prophets, seers, priests and preachers are besought for their insights into the puzzle of life. Where did we come from? Why are we here? Where are we going? Is life worth living? These are a few of the countless ways of questioning life's meaning.

The great apostle had no doubts as to the source of real meaning for his life. He had experimented with the alternatives, and he is prepared to declare to these same Philippians that he counts "them but dung" (3:8) over against the life he has found in Christ.

I. Life in the Crucible (vv. 19-20)

A few days ago I stood in the Mamerline Prison in Rome where, according to tradition, Paul was incarcerated. Despite the artificial lighting, and the trappings of ritualistic religion the fearsome, depressing atmosphere of the place made its mark upon my mind. It was in this crucible that Paul evaluated the meaning of his life.

In his own pilgrimage Paul had come to a critical moment. He had no certain idea of what the judgment of Rome in his case would be. He has one "earnest expectation and hope": that he will not do anything in the face of life or death to shame himself or his Lord. The "salvation," or "deliverance" of verse 19 may be understood as deliverance from a failure of Christian courage.

Imprisoned and facing an uncertain future, Paul looks hard at the meaning of life. Many approaches to life will do in the days of "sunshine and lillipops" which will not do at all when the crisis comes. It is in the crucible of trial and pain that one discovers whether his life has any real meaning.

II. Life in Christ (vv. 21-24)

Against the backdrop of his testing Paul gives us this marvelous expression of faith: "For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain." William Barclay happily translates this phrase "Living is Christ to me, and death is gain." Here is the true, and only, meaning of life.

Paul's life was utterly absorbed in the life of Christ. He could write to the Galatians, for example, "... I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me. . ."

(2:20). Christ was Paul's reason for living. Christ was Paul's hope in dying. Life in Christ is both abundant and everlasting. Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). Our Lord also promised, "Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die" (John 11:26). Life in Christ is complete.

This is the concept Paul is conveying when he indicates that living is Christ and death is gain. Both alternatives are so attractive that Paul is hard pressed to make a choice. If he lives, which is better for the Philippians, he is confident his labor in the Lord will be fruitful. If he dies he will gain the eternal, face-to-face presence of Christ and all the glories of heaven. Either way his life in Christ is richly meaningful.

III. Life in Community (v. 27)

One of the major reasons for the Letter to the Philippians was to encourage unity in the fellowship. The great passage on the humility and self-emptying of Jesus speaks to this issue (2:1-11). The quarrel between Euodias and Syntyche is dealt with directly in 4:2-3, as is the divisiveness of false teachers in 3:2. In our key verse Paul enjoins the Philippians to "... stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel."

Meaningful life in Christ is life in community. The most important phrase in the New Testament may well be "one another." The early Christians had no church buildings, no standing in society, no elaborate structures for training and ministry, no financial resources. But they had one another. It is this keen sense of community which we have largely lost from our "western civilization" brand of Christianity. The more I study the New Testament, the more I am impressed with the communal nature of our Faith. The life in Christ has its fullest meaning only in fellowship with other "citizens of the Kingdom."

IV. Life in Conflict (vv. 28-30)

Life in Christ is no "bed of roses." The cost of following Jesus is made plain in the cross. Rather than being an occasion for despair, Paul intimates that the opposition of a godless world system is evidence that one has been saved (v. 28). The Philippians

were well aware of Paul's personal conflict with evil (see Acts 16). The Greek of verse 29 declares that the Christian enjoys a double high privilege: believing in Christ, and suffering for his sake.

Paul's message here is patently clear — the life of meaning in Christ is one of victory through conflict. Every day of my ministry I encounter people in the midst of pain produced by the struggles of living. There is never any doubt as to who is "in Christ" and who is not. The Christian meets life's conflicts with a confident faith, somehow believing that all will turn out right. The non-Christian runs scared before the howling fury of life. Only the presence of Christ sustains life and gives it meaning in times of conflict.

So, we have come full circle with Paul. He began in the crucible of prison to search out the meaning of life. For him it is Christ in the course of living, and Christ in the time of dying. For Paul this life in Christ is only realized within the community of believers. Finally, he returns to the theme of suffering and conflict. Pointing to his own example, he urges the Philippians to meet their adversities with confidence and courage.

### Shady Grove Sees Results From Adding Educational Building

Shady Grove Church in Pontotoc Association has completed an educational building that includes a large fellowship hall, a nursery, two rest rooms, baptistry, storage space, pastor's office, kitchen, four Sunday School rooms, and a public address system.

Since the completion of the educational building in the spring the church has added a choir, doubled the attendance in Sunday School and at other services, and has had 26 persons saved and baptized.

Danny Sparks is the pastor.

The world's great men have not commonly been great scholars, nor its great scholars great men. — Holmes — Autocrat of the Breakfast Table